

Harbourmaster's Direction 6/2019

Fuel changeovers for vessel approaching Wellington

1. Preamble

This direction is issued pursuant to section 33F of the Maritime Transport Act 1994, to mitigate potential risk of unexpected engine failure by vessel changing fuel prior to entering port.

2. Definitions

“Harbourmaster” - means a Harbourmaster appointed by Greater Wellington Regional Council under section 33D of the Maritime Transport Act 1994.

“vessel” - means any description of craft used in navigation

“fuel type” - refers to a variety of bunker fuels including but not limited to heavy fuel, low sulphur fuel oil and marine gas oil.

3. Application

These directions apply to all vessels that change between fuel types that supply their main propulsion engine(s) prior to entering port.

4. Navigation Requirements

No vessel, that changes between fuel types used on its propulsion engine(s) prior to entering port, is to make that change within four hours of arrival at the Wellington Pilot station. The fuel change should occur prior to this time in order to minimise the risk of engine failure due to fuel change.

5. Area Concerned

This applies to vessels approaching Wellington Harbour with the intention to take a pilot and enter the port. Vessels are reminded of Notice 10 in the NZ Nautical Almanac that requests vessel plan their routes to pass at least 5 nautical miles of any land, charted danger or outlying island when travelling around the New Zealand coast.

6. Liability

Greater Wellington Regional Council shall not, in any case, be responsible for any loss or damage arising from the negligence of the master or crew of any vessel to which this direction applies, or for any loss, damage or incident involving the vessel.

N G Nalder
Regional Harbourmaster
Greater Wellington Regional Council
23 December 2019

